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REPORT

DATE DISTR. 13 July 1955 25X1

NO. OF PAGES 2

REQUIREMENT NO.

REFERENCES

This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. six small destroyers, one tug towing a large target in a west-southwesterly direction, and one aircraft, about six to ten miles outside of Ventpils.
2. In Ventpils, [redacted] several minesweepers [redacted] were fitted for minesweeping, this type of vessel had only one anti-aircraft mounting aft. Each vessel had a vertical stack fitted with a smoke cowling, one pole mast abaft the bridge, about one-third the length of the ship; a flush deck; and a bridge which was almost as high as the stack. There was a depth charge chute aft. The armament on each vessel consisted of: a 70-millimeter gun on the forecastle, twin 20-millimeter guns forward of the bridge on a gundeck, and two twin mountings abaft the stack. Only two of the ships were fitted with radar. These were reported as the ships "leading each row".
3. Inside the mole, there was one guard ship with a vertical stack amidships and a flush deck. It had a single pole mast which was five times the length of the ship; the mast was located abaft the stack. It had one five-millimeter gun mounted on the forecastle, twin 20-millimeter guns on the quarterdeck, and one 40-millimeter gun mounted forward of the 20-millimeter gun.
4. At the eastern end of the Winter Harbor, [redacted] four minesweepers of the same class as those described in paragraph 2. Each minesweeper had four rows of horned mines, with five mines in each row. The mines were uncovered and newly painted black. [redacted]
5. The following vessels were berthed at the Town Quay starting at the easternmost point: two minesweepers; four torpedo boats; one submarine; four minesweepers of the same type as those described in paragraph 2, but with a square bridge forward; a vessel believed to be a submarine depot ship of approximately 2,600 tons; two other submarines; one torpedo boat; four ships similar to those described in paragraph 2, but all four were fitted with

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radar; and four ships of the same type, with indications that the depth charge chutes were not fitted.

6. While [] ship was in the harbor to discharge 1,000 tons of iron bars, the Soviet merchant ships NIKITA and ADMIRAL KOTOV were seen.

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7. Prior to the departure of [] ship, two submarines and three antisubmarine vessels left the harbor.

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